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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



Applicant : Kenji ISSHIKI et al.

Group Art Unit : 1761

Appl. No. : 10/500,870 (U.S. National Stage of PCT/JP03/01222)

Examiner : Not Yet Assigned

I.A. Filed : February 6, 2003

Confirmation No. : 8728

For : METHOD OF EVALUATING QUALITY OF FOODS AND DRINKS
AND INDICATOR THEREFOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th Street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop _____
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby bring the following information to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application, which includes information cited and discussed in the specification and the International Search Report issued in connection with International Patent Application No. PCT/JP03/01222, of which the present application is the U.S. National Stage Application. Copies of the International Search Report (in English and Japanese) were enclosed with the papers when entering the National Stage on July 21, 2004. The Examiner is invited to review these materials to inspect the relevance indicated during international examination with respect to the documents cited therein. The following is a list of the documents cited in the above-noted documents:

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 8-15251, together with an English language Abstract of the same;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 9-504858, together with an English language Abstract of the same and patent family member U.S. Patent No. 5,306,466;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 11-296086, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicant notes that this document is cited in the specification of the present application, including page 2;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 11-194053, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicant notes that this document is cited in the specification of the present application, including page 2;

Japanese Patent No. 2930515, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicant notes that this document is cited in the specification of the present application, including page 11;

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2001-335005, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicant notes that this document is cited in the specification of the present application, including page 11; and

Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2002-2601, together with an English language Abstract of the same. Applicant notes that this document is cited in the specification of the present application, including page 11.

Further to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office's decision to waive the requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98 (a)(2)(i), a copy of the U.S. patent is not enclosed

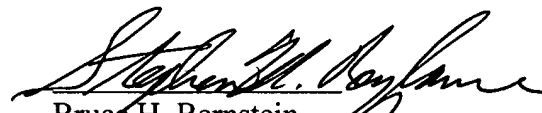
herewith. However, if a copy is needed, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned.

Copies of the above-noted foreign documents are enclosed together with a duly completed Form PTO-1449. The Examiner is accordingly requested to consider each of these documents, and to make them of record in this application by initialing in the appropriate spaces on the Form PTO-1449. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner include a copy of the initialed Form PTO-1449 with the next communication from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (b)(i), this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months entering the U.S. National Stage. Accordingly, no fees are required to ensure consideration of the submitted material.

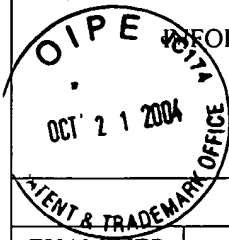
Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kenji ISSHIKI et al.


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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.
P25673Application No.
10/500,870INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant
Kenji ISSHIKI et al.Filing Date
February 6, 2003Group
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|---------------------|-----------------|----------|-----------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| | 5 3 0 6 4 6 6 | 04/26/94 | GOLDSMITH | | | |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION YES NO |
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| | 8 - 1 5 2 5 1 | 02/19/96 | JAPAN | | | |
| 9 | - 5 0 4 8 5 8 | 05/13/97 | JAPAN | | | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| 1 | English language Abstract of JP 08-015251, Published 01/19/96. |
| 2 | English language Abstract of JP 11-296086, Published 10/29/99. |
| 3 | English language Abstract of JP 11-194053, Published 07/21/99. |
| 4 | English language Abstract of JP 07-017517, Published 01/20/1995. |
| 5 | English language Abstract of JP 2001-335005, Published 12/04/01. |
| 6 | English language Abstract of JP 2002-002601, Published 01/09/02. |
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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.